

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSLO 02254 110740Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /027 W
-----120553Z 005365 /12

R 110653Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3722
INFO USIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 2254

STATE FOR INR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PROP, NO, KN
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE NORTH KOREAN DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN

1. EDITOR OSLO DAILY DAGBLADET HAS ASKED POST ASSISTANCE TO VERIFY AUTHENTICITY OF NORTH KOREAN NEWS AGENCY DISPATCH WHICH PAPER RECEIVED BY MAIL FROM NORTH KOREA'S OSLO EMBASSY. DISPATCH, WHICH TRANSMITTED IN FULL BELOW, APPEARS TO US TO BE HIGHLY SUSPECT. GENERAL SYNTAX AND GRAMMATICAL ERRORS INDICATE, IN OUR VIEW, THAT IT WAS NOT WRITTEN BY NATIVE SPEAKER OF ENGLISH.

2. IF LETTER CAN BE VERIFIED AS FAKE, DAGBLADET WILL USE IT AS BASIS FOR SENSATIONALIST EXPOSE OF FURTHER SKULDUGGERY BY NORTH KOREA'S OSLO EMBASSY, WHICH WAS RECENTLY CAUGHT RED-HANDED IN MAJOR LIQUOR SMUGGLING OPERATION. DAGBLADET WOULD NOT INSIST ON ATTRIBUTING ANYTHING IN STORY TO U.S., BUT WOULD LIKE OUR PRIVATE ASSURANCES THAT LETTER IS FALSE BEFORE GOING INTO PRINT.

3. ALSO, DAGBLADET WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON WHETHER LETTER DISTRIBUTED BY NORTH KOREANS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, AND WHETHER ANY OTHER WESTERN MEDIA HAVE REVEALED IT AS NORTH CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 OSLO 02254 110740Z

KOREAN DISINFORMATION EFFORT.

4. COMMENT: WE SEE NO ADVANTAGES LOCALLY IN HAVING USG OR "AMERICAN SOURCES" IDENTIFIED AS CALLING LETTER A FAKE IN ANY SUBSEQUENT DAGBLADET STORY.

5. APPRECIATE REPLY SOONEST.

6. FULL TEXT DISPATCH FOLLOWS: BEGIN TEXT: SOLDIERS OF THE U.S. ARMY STATIONED IN SOUTH KOREA SEND LETTER TO U.S. PRESIDENT ASKING FOR THE TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF THE U.S. ARMY.

TOKYO (KNS) -- THE "KOREA NEWS SERVICE" IN JAPAN RECENTLY OBTAINED A LETTER WHICH 15 SOLDIERS OF THE U.S. ARMY PRESENT IN SOUTH KOREA SENT IN THEIR JOINT NAME TO U.S. PRESIDENT CARTER ON APRIL 9, ASKING FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE U.S. ARMY FROM SOUTH KOREA.

THE LETTER OBTAINED BY THE "KOREA NEWS SERVICE" READS IN FULL: DEAR PRESIDENT CARTER: WE WANT TO WRITE TO YOU AS A GROUP OF AMERICANS WHO ARE IN THE SERVICE HERE IN KOREA.

BUT IT IS HARD FOR US TO WRITE TO YOU BECAUSE OF THE ATTITUDE OF OUR SUPERIORS. IF THEY KNEW WE WERE WRITING THIS LETTER, WE WOULD PROBABLY GET IN A LOT OF TROUBLE.

THERE IS A LOT OF PRESSURE HERE NOT TO EVEN TALK ABOUT AMERICAN TROOPS GOING BACK TO THE UNITED STATES. SO WE HAVE MADE THE CONCLUSION TO WRITE TO YOU AS A GROUP.

WHAT WE WANT TO ASK YOU IS WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID DURING YOUR ELECTION CAMPAIGN ABOUT WITHDRAWING ALL AMERICAN TROOPS FROM KOREA.

WE ALSO WONDER WHY YOU HAVE BEEN SO SILENT ABOUT KOREA IN ALL YOUR TALKS ABOUT OUR RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES BEING BASED ON HUMAN RIGHTS. IT LOOKS TO US HERE LIKE WHAT OUR GOVERNMENT IS DOING IS SUPPORTING A DICTATORSHIP IN THIS COUNTRY.

AND WE ARE HERE WITH THE ARMY TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT WE WILL DEFEND OUR ALLIES. BUT THIS ALLY DOES NOT ENCOURAGE DEMOCRACY. SO WHY ARE WE SUPPORTING HIM WITH ALL THE AMERICAN TROOPS HERE?

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 OSLO 02254 110740Z

WE HAVE CONCLUDED TO ASK YOU TO TAKE ALL THE AMERICAN TROOPS OUT OF KOREA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

YOU ARE THE PRESIDENT OF THE GREATEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD. SO WE HAVE AN IMPORTANT PLACE TO PLAY IN MAKING THINGS BETTER. AS IT LOOKS TO US HERE, WE ARE ONLY CAUSING BAD FEELING TOWARD OUR COUNTRY BY THE KOREAN NATIONALS.

YOU PROBABLY KNOW ABOUT ALL THE KINDS OF PROBLEMS THAT HAPPEN WITH ALL THE TROOPS HERE.

WHEN YOU TALKED ABOUT TROOPS WITHDRAWAL BEFORE THE ELECTION, THE NEWSPAPERS HERE MADE IT LOOK LIKE IT WOULD BE A DISASTER FOR KOREA IF YOU BECAME PRESIDENT.

BUT AFTER YOU WERE ELECTED THE GOVERNMENT LOOKS TO HAVE DECIDED TO TRY TO WIN YOU OVER BY ACTING LIKE A FRIEND.

BUT WE THINK YOU OWE IT TO US, AND TO THE MANY KOREAN PEOPLE WHO WANT MORE DEMOCRACY, TO BEGIN TO LIVE UP TO YOUR CAMPAIGN PROMISE.

IT LOOKS VERY BAD TO US FOR YOU TO SAY YOU ARE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS BUT KEEP ON GIVING ALL SUPPORT TO PRESIDENT PAK. THERE IS NO REASON TO WAIT FIVE YEARS TO PULL OUT THE

TROOPS, ALL AMERICAN TROOPS, NOT JUST ARMY INFANTRY UNITS, SHOULD
BE PULLED OUT NOW.

WE HOPE YOU WILL TAKE THIS LETTER SERIOUSLY.

IT IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR US TO SIGN IT, BUT WE HOPE YOU
WILL TRUST US AND LOOK AT OUR OPINIONS.

WE WANTED TO SIGN OUR NAMES SO WE COULD GET A REPLY FROM
YOU, BUT INSTEAD NOW WE HOPE TO SEE YOUR POLICY TOWARDS KOREA
CHANGE.

THERE ARE MANY OTHERS HERE WHO FEEL LIKE WE DO ON THIS.

IF WE MAIL THIS IN ARMY MAIL, MABYE IT WON'T GET THROUGH
TO YOU, SO WE WILL THINK OF SOMETHING ELSE.

WITH HOPES FOR YOUR CONSIDEREATION,

15 AMERICAN SERVICE PEOPLE IN KOREA

FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL

APRIL 9, 1977, SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA. END TEXT.

ANDERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROPAGANDA, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY PERSONNEL, INSTRUCTIONS, ALLEGATIONS, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OSLO02254
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770167-0124
Format: TEL
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770570/aaaaciju.tel
Line Count: 131
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a6b5ba96-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2569045
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE NORTH KOREAN DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN
TAGS: PROP, NO, KN, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a6b5ba96-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009